

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:481

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008

DROUGHT AFFECTED STATES

Athawale Shri Ramdas;Singh Dr. Ram Lakhan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts affected by drought during the last year and thereafter till date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme/action plan to mitigate the problems being faced by the farmers due to drought; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount allocated under the said scheme, State- wise during the above period?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 481 DUE FOR REPLY ON 28TH APRIL, 2008.

(a) to (c): During the South-West Monsoon 2007 (1.6.2007 to 30.9.2007), the country as a whole received 936.9 mm of rainfall against normal average rainfall of 892.2 mm, with a deviation of +5%. The Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh declared drought in parts of the States mainly due to deficient rainfall, as under:-

Madhya Pradesh 39 districts
Rajasthan 12 districts
Uttar Pradesh 9 districts

It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States with financial and logistic support. Ready availability of funds exist with the States in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to take such measures. CRF is contributed by the Government of India and States concerned in the ratio of 3:1. The Central share of CRF is normally released in two half-yearly instalments.

In case the funds available in the CRF are not sufficient to tackle the situation, the State Government concerned is required to submit memorandum for assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), which is considered in accordance with a set procedure.

For the drought of 2007-08, the Government of Madhya Pradesh submitted memoranda seeking assistance of Rs.1883.81 crores from the NCCF, which was considered in accordance with the set procedure. This will now be considered by the High Level Committee (HLC) for a decision on the quantum of assistance to States for drought relief, from the NCCF.

No memorandum for assistance from the NCCF for drought relief has so far been received from the Governments of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.